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work. The author, we happen to know, has had The Unwilling Vestal on his mind for some thirty years and writes out of a fulness of knowledge that may well lead him to dissent from some of the reviewer's conclusions. Our final suggestion may be unacceptable to Mr. White after writing so charmingly and without the slightest taint of pedantry a book intended primarily to entertain: The Unwilling Vestal could profitably be assigned to young Latinists to review for class-room purposes, or to a Classical Club of undergraduates for an evening of discussion, or to an advanced class in Private Life or Roman Religion for serious analysis and verification upon the basis of our ancient authorities. We plan to commit several of these sins ourselves.

UNIVERSITY OF
PENNSYLVANIA.

WALTON BROOKS McDANIEL.

Essais d' Etymologie et de Critique Verbale Latines; Recueil de Travaux Publiés par la Faculté des Lettres de l' Université de Neuchâtel, Septième Fascicule. Par Max Niedermann. Paris and Neuchâtel: Attinger Frères (1918). Pp. 119.

At the close of his Preface, dated July 31, 1918, Professor Niedermann thanks his faculty and La Société Académique de Neuchâtel for having made possible the publication of his book "en dépit des difficultés de l' heure actuelle". Honor to the Swiss University which carried on the cause of scholarship even in dark days!

These pages contain a miscellany of etymologies and elucidations of difficult passages in certain epigraphic and Vulgar Latin texts. The whole book is tied together by a single method—a method as sound as it is uncommon. In matters of etymology Niedermann is particularly concerned to gather all possible light from the resources of Latin itself and from a painstaking study of the semantic problems involved. In textual matters he calls in the help of scientific grammar. In short, Niedermann has given us a brief demonstration of the interdependence of the study of Latin texts and the study of the Latin language.

Possibly the most interesting of the etymological articles is that on *parma* (pages 36-45). After examining and rejecting the previously suggested etymologies, not one of which really has anything in its favor except phonetic possibility, and some not even that, our author suggests that *palma*, in its original sense of 'hand' (Greek *παλάμη*), formed a diminutive *palmula*, which was changed by dissimulation to *parmula*. Many examples are cited from various languages of 'diminutives' in form but not in sense; e.g. *armilla*, 'bracelet', from *armus*, 'arm'; and *manicula*, 'handle of the plough', from *manus*, 'hand'; in a similar fashion *parmula* came to mean 'shield'. Professor Petersen's monograph on Greek Diminutives in *-ιον*, particularly 98 ff., might have suggested that *parmula* was not a true diminutive at all, but contained some earlier

meaning of the suffix; at any rate, the meaning of the derivative seems to be parallel with that of *armilla* and *manicula*. *Parma*, then, is a retrograde derivative of *parmula*, just as *pugna* comes from *pugnare*, which is itself a derivative of *pugnus*, 'fist'.

On pages 55 f. there is a discussion of an epigraphical dedication to Priapus, C. I. L. 5. 2803 = Carmina Epigraphica 861:

Villicus aerari quondam, nunc cultor agelli,
haec tibi perspectus templa Priape dico.

Perspectus, in the sense of *probatas*, is to be taken with *Priape*. There are many Latin examples of the vocative in *-us*, as *Audi tu*, *populus Albanus* (Livy 1.24.7); but for exact parallels to our passage Niedermann goes to *φίλος ὦ Μενέλαε* (Il. 4.189), *ὄϊλος θύειρε* (*sic*, Il. 2.8), and the Lithuanian adjectives, which differ from the nouns in having lost the vocative form.

Of particular interest to grammarians is a footnote on pages 31 f., concerning Indo-European *dh*. The new hypothesis has the advantage of making the second consonant of *medius* from **medhios* and of *ruber* from **rudhros* a voiced sound from the earliest times, instead of assuming an interval of voicelessness in the Italic period.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

E. H. STURTEVANT.

HARVARD STUDIES IN CLASSICAL PHILOLOGY, VOLUME XXIX

Volume XXIX of Harvard Studies in Classical Philology contains three papers: Plato's View of Poetry, 1-75, by William Chase Greene; Collations of the Manuscripts of Aristophanes' Aves, by John Williams White and Earnest Cary, 77-131; Joseph Scaliger's Estimates of Greek and Latin Authors, by George W. Robinson (133-176). A page in the volume is dedicated to a brief record of Professor White's service at Harvard.

Mr. Greene's essay is a revision of his doctoral dissertation, *Quid de Poetis Plato Censuerit*, presented to Harvard University in 1917. The study is carefully documented, by references to Plato and other Greek writers, and to modern scholars who have written about Plato. He sums up on pages 73-75. We must not hope, he says, to find in Plato's writings a definite formula that shall represent Plato's views.

Mr. Robinson regards Joseph Scaliger as "the greatest scholar of modern times—if not indeed of all times", and feels that, therefore, a peculiar value attaches to his estimates of the classical writers. A few of these estimates had been collected and arranged in Sir Thomas Blount's *Censura Celebriorum Authorum* (1690), but most of them had been uncollected, till Mr. Robinson himself read through the huge bulk of Scaliger's writings, and presented the results in the present paper. Mr. Robinson has also included the Scaligerana, memoranda of Scaliger's informal conver-

sations jotted down, for the years 1574-1593, by Franciscus Vertunianus, and for the years 1603-1606 by the brothers Vassan. They contain, says Mr. Robinson, much that is of value, a value that is, at times, increased by their very informality.

The arrangement of the Estimates is alphabetical, usually by authors, occasionally by groups of authors (in the latter case the necessary cross-references are inserted.) The actual citations from Scaliger cover pages 137-176. Though the footnotes, which give references to the place in which Scaliger expressed the particular judgment, take up a certain amount of every page; the actual bulk of these citations is very great, and the range of authors of whom Scaliger speaks is enormous. The major part of the authors, Greek and Latin both, lie far outside the reading, I should say, of most classical scholars. Comments on the more familiar authors—e.g. Aristophanes, Plautus, Horace, Terence, take up little space. The Appendix Vergiliana receives much more attention than the unquestioned works of Vergil. Many of the comments are brief, of the sort that one might make even without any careful, first-hand knowledge of the authors, but it is abundantly clear, after all, that Scaliger knew the authors, Greek and Latin, as few men have known them. One cannot help thinking, as he turns over Mr. Robinson's pages, of the wonderful knowledge of orators, Greek and Roman, Cicero displays in his Brutus. In both cases, Scaliger's and Cicero's, the knowledge is of the sort that the Germans once were fond of characterizing by the word 'Autopsie'.

C. K.

THE PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF LIBERAL STUDIES

The Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Liberal Studies held its Sixth Annual Meeting in Houston Hall, of the University of Pennsylvania, on Saturday, March 22.

The following officers were elected: President, Professor George Depue Hadzits, University of Pennsylvania; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Harvey Watts, of the Public Ledger, and Dr. Laura Carnell, of Temple University; Secretary, Miss Bessie R. Burchett, South Philadelphia High School for Girls; Treasurer, Mr. Fred. J. Doolittle, The Episcopal Academy.

Miss Florence A. Fonda, of the West Chester High School, presented a paper on Vitality versus Mortality in High School Latin. Miss Fonda described plays, games, etc., by means of which she stimulates interest in Latin. The figures which she gave show the success of her methods, for almost half of the pupils in the School elect Latin.

Dr. Mary C. Burchinal, of the West Philadelphia High School for Girls, gave a paper on How to Make the Teaching of the Classics Vital. Dr. Burchinal presented different phases of the vitality of Latin, and read some of the answers to a questionnaire in which her pupils had been asked to tell why they liked Latin.

Professor Lane Cooper, of Cornell University, in a paper abounding in interest and wit as well as in learning, to which this short review can not do justice, pleaded the cause of the Classics. He compared the spirit of ancient, medieval, and modern literature, and urged that young people in their formative years should study Latin and Greek authors for the sake of the standard of good taste to be found there. He very forcefully advocated a revision of the classical course, making it include a minimum of syntax, and a great amount of reading. Ovid and Plato are the authors he thinks most fruitful, both because of their influence upon English literature and thought, and because of the ideas to be obtained from these ancient sources. One suggestion of his is both an encouragement and a warning: that both teachers and pupils should read more widely in ancient literature. He says that it is possible for pupils to acquire the habit of reading Latin and Greek rapidly, just as they acquire that of reading modern languages rapidly; but, in order to train their students to this, teachers themselves must read widely, for it is impossible to impart a habit which one does not possess.

The President, Dr. W. W. Comfort, President of Haverford College, in his annual report reviewed a prosperous year for the Society. Of the first meeting of the year, held on November 8, a report appeared in *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* 12.62-63. The addresses delivered there have been published in pamphlet form by the University of Pennsylvania (*THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* 12.160).

The second meeting was held in Witherspoon Hall. The general subject was Liberal Studies and their Relation to Citizenship and Patriotism. The speakers were Mr. Walter George Smith, Miss Agnes Repplier, and Dr. Henry Van Dyke.

The third meeting was concerned with Educational Reconstruction. Dr. Francis B. Brandt, Dean William McClellan, Dr. John P. Garber, President Joseph Swain, Professor William I. Hull, Professor Elihu Grant, and Rev. John A. MacCallum took part in this discussion.

The Society feels that the fact that so many eminent men and women have spoken in Philadelphia for the value of the Classics can not fail to influence public opinion.

In addition to the public meetings, the Society, through Miss Jessie E. Allen, Chairman of the Lecture-ship Committee, has arranged for free lectures which were delivered in Schools in Philadelphia and the vicinity (*THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* 12.128).

BESSIE R. BURCHETT, *Secretary*.

QUERY CONCERNING THE TOGA PRAETEXTA

Can anyone supply pertinent facts in answer to the question, How did the Romans make the red stripe in the toga? To this question I have had various answers: "They sewed on a piece of ribbon or cloth. There was no seam"; "They wove it in the fabric of the toga"; "Such a stripe cannot be woven in such a whole piece of cloth"; "They cut the toga and sewed in a colored strip". None of these answers seems to me satisfactory; some of them must be wrong.

FRANKLIN A. DAKIN

HAVERFORD SCHOOL.